

## School Messaging During CAP Month

**Messages for adults: (Note: Use your own discretion about which statements are appropriate for the target audience.)**

- With Child Abuse Prevention Month upon us, it is time to ensure that every child has the equal opportunity to grow and develop.
- Families can be strengthened when they have, knowledge of healthy parenting, have strong social supports and have good access to concrete supports as needed.
- Children are our future but abuse can rob them of that future.
- Listen and take seriously any child who shares information about having been abused.
- Professional school personnel are mandatory reporters.

**Messages for children: (Note: Use your own discretion about which statements are appropriate for the developmental level of the student audience.)**

- It's OK to talk to a trusted adult if you think you may have been abused.
- It's never OK to have someone touch you in a private part of your body or in any way that makes you feel uncomfortable.
- It's never your fault if someone has touched you in a private part of your body.
- It's never OK to have another person (adult or child) act in such a way as to deliberately bruise your body.
- Never identify yourself to a stranger on a computer website or social network site.
- It's never OK for people to call you names that make you feel bad.
- It's never your fault if someone has done you bodily harm.
- Go with friends or adults when walking to and from school. Don't be alone.
- Don't stoop to joining friends in making fun of or calling out names to another person. Let your friends know that what they are doing is wrong.
- You are better than the person who bullies another.
- If you can't tell your friends that their bullying is wrong then go to a trusted adult and speak to that person about what is happening.
- Never approach or go anywhere with strangers.
- Never take anything from a stranger.